Birkbeck College Crystallography Laboratory, 21/22 Torrington Square, London, W.C.1.

Dr. J.D. Watson, Kerkhoff Laboratories of Biology, California Institute of Biology, Pasadena, California, U.S.A.

10th June, 1955.

Dear Jim,

Many thanks for your letter, which I ought to have answered sooner. I have now had from Caspar a lot more details about his work, and I look forward to discussing it and other TMV problems with you soon.

I recently collected some repolymerised A-protein from Schramm. From this I have now obtained an X-ray diagram which is almost indistinguishable from a good TMV diagram except on the meridian and equator. That is, the non-meridional, non-equatorial part of the TMV diagram must be due almost exclusively to protein. I mention this because of your remark that the RNA must fit the TMV helical grid. This may well be true, on the other hand I think, as far as the X-ray data are concerned, a disordered RNA core would fit the picture equally well.

I shall probably be sending you a short paper in a few days.

Best wishes,

Yours